

Message Text

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SUBJ: US STATEMENT ON SOUTHERN RHODESIA, FOURTH COMMITTEE,
OCT 25

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT ON SOUTHERN RHODESIA DELIVERED
BY AMB BARBARA WHITE IN FOURTH COMMITTEE OCT 25.

STATEMENT ON SOUTHERN RHODESIA
GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR BARBARA M. WHITE
COMMITTEE IV - OCTOBER 25, 1974

IN HIS SEPTEMBER 23 ADDRESS BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER DECLARED
THAT THE UNITED STATES "...SHARES AND PLEDGES ITS SUPPORT
FOR THE ASPIRATIONS OF ALL AFRICANS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
FRUITS OF FREEDOM AND HUMAN DIGNITY." I AM GLAD TO RECALL
THIS STATEMENT, MR. CHAIRMAN, AS WE DISCUSS SOUTHERN RHODESIA,
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ONE OF THE PARTS OF AFRICA WHERE THESE ISSUES ARE AT STAKE TODAY.

OVER THE PAST YEAR, THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA HAS FACED FRUSTRATION, BUT IT HAS ALSO BEEN THE SCENE OF HISTORIC PROGRESS. GUINEA-BISSAU HAS JOINED OUR RANKS WITH UNIVERSAL ACCLAIM FOR ITS NEWLY WON INDEPENDENCE. MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA ARE MOVING QUICKLY TOWARD FULL INDEPENDENCE AND MAJORITY RULE. THESE DRAMATIC EVENTS ARE RESHAPING THE FACE OF AFRICA. THEY MUST ALSO HAVE TELLING EFFECTS--NOT THE LEAST OF THEM PSYCHOLOGICAL--UPON THE MINORITY REGIME IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

UP TO NOW, THAT ILLEGAL REGIME HAS SEEMED TO SHOW LITTLE COMPREHENSION OF WHAT IS HAPPENING WITHIN AND BEYOND ITS BORDERS. BUT WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT THE QUICKENING PACE OF EVENTS WILL INDUCE IT, TOO, TO FACE THE CRYING NEED FOR CHANGE--TO WORK OUT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT ACCEPTABLE TO THE WHOLE POPULATION OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA AS WELL AS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, WHICH RETAINS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT BY ALL NATIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S MANDATORY SANCTIONS IS NECESSARY TO INCREASE THE PRESSURES UPON THE MINORITY REGIME IN SALISBURY AND THEREBY CONTRIBUTE TOWARD AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. THUS MY GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN AND IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL SANCTIONS COMMITTEE.

DURING THE PAST YEAR, THE UNITED STATES HAS TAKEN FURTHER STEPS TO TIGHTEN ITS OWN ENFORCEMENT OF SANCTIONS. WHEN MADE AWARE THAT UNITED STATES AIRLINES MAINTAINED INTER-LINE AGREEMENTS WITH AIR RHODESIA AND THAT UNITED STATES TRAVEL FIRMS AND AIRLINES ISSUED TICKETS FOR AIR RHODESIA, THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION ACTED TO END THESE PRACTICES. WHEN IT BECAME EVIDENT THAT THE OPERATOR OF THE AIR RHODESIA OFFICE IN NEW YORK WAS ENGAGING IN UNAUTHORIZED TRANSACTIONS, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY CLOSED THE OFFICE.

THIS COMMITTEE IS FAMILIAR WITH THE BYRD AMENDMENT, WHICH PERMITS UNITED STATES IMPORTS OF CERTAIN STRATEGIC MATERIALS FROM SOUTHERN RHODESIA. I WOULD LIKE TO REPORT ON THE CURRENT SITUATION. THE AMENDMENT HAS BEEN REPEALED BY THE SENATE AND IS AWAITING ACTION BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. ON AUGUST 12, UNCLASSIFIED

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THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCED THE SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT FORD, WHO HAD ASSUMED THE OFFICE ONLY THREE DAYS BEFORE, FOR REPEAL OF THE AMENDMENT. THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO RETURNING THE UNITED STATES TO FULL CONFORMITY WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS. IN NO WAY AM I LESSENING THAT COMMITMENT, MR. CHAIRMAN, WHEN I POINT OUT THAT UNITED STATES IMPORTS UNDER THE BYRD AMENDMENT HAVE BEEN MINIMAL IN RELATIONS TO TOTAL RHODESIAN TRADE, AMOUNTING

TO LESS THAN 5 PERCENT OF ALL EXPORTS FROM THAT COUNTRY. I DO SO ONLY BECAUSE ANY REALISTIC DISCUSSION OF THE SUBJECT MUST INCLUDE THIS FACT.

DURING THIS DEBATE, WE HAVE HEARD ALLEGATIONS THAT THE UNITED STATES, THROUGH SOUTH AFRICA, IS ASSISTING THE SMITH REGIME IN MILITARY MATTERS. I CAN STATE CATEGORICALLY THAT THESE CHARGES ARE TOTALLY WITHOUT FOUNDATION.

MR. CHAIRMAN, THE UNITED STATES DEEPLY BELIEVES IN AND SUPPORTS THE PRINCIPLE OF MAJORITY RULE. IT HAS BEEN A FUNDAMENTAL PART OF OUR NATIONAL TRADITION; IT REMAINS SO TODAY.

THE UNITED STATES WANTS TO SEE A GOVERNMENT IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA WHICH IS THE RESULT OF A FREE CHOICE BY ALL THE PEOPLE OF THAT LAND.

WE FIRMLY SUPPORT BRITISH EFFORTS TO END THE RHODESIAN REBELLION.

WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO SEE THAT UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS ARE RESPECTED.

WE EARNESTLY HOPE THAT THE MARCH OF EVENTS IN AFRICA OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS BEAR FRUIT IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA AS WELL...AND THAT SHE WILL MOVE TO BECOME A TRUE MEMBER OF THE AFRICAN COMMUNITY, WHERE HER DESTINY MUST LIE.

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.
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